

**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
SOLID WASTE PROGRAM  
610 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-3643**  
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File Number: 870.15.002**

August 9, 2000

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7099 3220 0003 2625 9232**

Jay DeLima, Mayor  
City of Ruby  
P.O. Box 90  
Ruby, Alaska 99768

Dear Mayor DeLima:

***Re: Ruby Solid Waste Disposal Permit #0031-BA008, Renewal of  
Permit #9431-BA008***

The Department of Environmental Conservation has completed its evaluation of your request for renewal of a solid waste disposal permit, to allow for the operation and maintenance of a municipal solid waste landfill off the Poorman Road, near Ruby, Alaska. The site is located in Section 8, T.9S., R.17E., Fairbanks Meridian. The Department is issuing this permit in accordance with AS 46, 18 AAC 15, and 18 AAC 60. Please review the conditions and stipulations in the permit and ensure they are all understood. This permit is effective upon issuance and expires July 15, 2005.

The City has submitted new open burning procedures as part of the permit renewal for this landfill. The burn procedures include separating waste and moving this activity to a separate area away from the working face. This permit requires the City to conduct open burning a burn cage, burn box or other enhanced burn device in order to achieve efficient combustion and reduce wildfire hazards. The City must take steps to construct or obtain a burn box or other device within one year of the issue date of this permit. In the interim, burning activities should be limited to a separate burn pit from the disposal trench with an attendant present. Wastes that may cause black smoke, smoldering or safety hazards must be prohibited from the burn pit. Since waste is taken to the landfill by self-haul, the City must take steps to educate all residents regarding the new waste separation for the burn pit.

Any person who disagrees with this decision may appeal the decision by requesting an adjudicatory hearing, using the procedures contained in 18 AAC 15.200-310. Hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 105, Juneau, Alaska 99801-1795, within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Sonafrank for  
Heather Stockard  
Solid Waste Program Manager

NS/ xd F:\EH\SW\2000\0031-BA007 Ruby.doc

Enclosure: Permit 0031-BA007

cc: w/enc: Trustees for Alaska/Anchorage

bcc: Heather Stockard, ADEC/SW - Juneau



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
NORTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE  
610 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-3643  
  
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL PERMIT**

Permit: **#0031-BA007**

Date: August 9, 2000

This Solid Waste Disposal Permit is issued to the City of Ruby for the operation and maintenance of a municipal solid waste landfill (including construction and demolition waste), and for the disposal of septic tank pumping waste in a separate trench. The landfill is located off the Poorman Road, near Ruby, Alaska within Section 8, T.9S., R.17E., Fairbanks Meridian. This permit is subject to the conditions and stipulations contained in Appendices A and B which are incorporated herein by reference.

This permit is issued under provisions of Alaska Statute 46.03, the Alaska Administrative Code, as amended or revised, and other applicable State laws and regulations.

This permit is effective upon issuance and expires July 15, 2005. It may be terminated or modified in accordance with AS 46.03.120.

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Nancy B. Sonafrank  
for Heather Stockard  
Solid Waste Program Manager

## APPENDIX A - SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

### I. SITE DEVELOPMENT

The permit holder shall:

- A. Comply with the designs and plans in the renewal application dated May 18, 2000 as well as the following permit conditions. Additional modification may be requested, but must be authorized by a permit amendment, before that modification is effective.
- B. Ensure that all operations will accommodate the waste volume and are done in a manner that will facilitate landfill closure.
- C. Ensure that a separate trench is constructed and maintained for disposal of septic tank pumping waste at the site.
- D. Ensure that surface water runoff from outside the facility does not flow onto the facility and over, into, or through uncovered or covered solid wastes by constructing and maintaining diversion structures, such as ditches or berms.
- E. Erect and maintain the following signs at the entrance to the site with the following information legibly printed:

- 1. Landfill contact information:

Facility Operator Identification  
Operator/Owner Name  
Conditions for Use  
Emergency Phone Numbers

- 2. A list of items that may not be disposed of at the site such as: acids, corrosives, solvents, oily wastes, explosives, hazardous wastes, radioactive wastes, or unsterilized medical waste.
- F. Erect and maintain readily visible signs in the facility directing users to the various disposal areas (e.g., the active disposal trench, salvage area and the septic tank pumping area) and listing pertinent rules for public use.
  - G. Erect and maintain a fence to ensure wildlife and domestic animals are not allowed access to the facility. Ensure that the site is managed in such a way as to prevent attracting wildlife, or domestic animals to the facility. Wastes will be stored in suitable containers prior to placement in the disposal cell to prevent wildlife attraction.
  - I. Ensure that the boundary of the landfill is at least 5,000 feet from the airport runway and that future expansion of the facility maintains that distance.

II. SITE OPERATION

The permit holder shall:

A. General Operating Procedures

1. Ensure that only domestic and commercial solid waste, construction and demolition wastes, septic tank pumping waste, and ash are disposed of at this site.
2. Maintain a controlled designated salvage area for the public. The area will be **cleaned up on an annual basis** and unused materials placed in the active cell area for disposal. Salvage area cleanups will be conducted on a more frequent basis if the area becomes a litter, nuisance or safety problem.
3. Ensure that public access to the facility is controlled to reduce risks to health, and to reduce safety hazards.
4. Ensure that the public is made aware of the rules and operations plan for the landfill. Control public access to the site, as necessary, to reduce risks to public health and safety.

B. Burial

1. Maintain a separation distance of 50 feet between edge of all waste disposal trenches and the property boundary.
2. Ensure that the maximum trench width does not exceed **40 feet** and the depth does not exceed **12 feet**.
3. Maintain a minimum ten-foot separation distance between the seasonal high groundwater and the base of the trench.
4. Consolidate and compact all loose refuse in a layer no deeper than 2 feet using 3 to 5 passes of the bulldozer/compaction equipment prior to placement of the cover material.
5. Cover with a minimum of six inches of compacted soil **every two weeks** during the summer months as long as the soils are workable.
6. Consolidate and compact all loose refuse every two weeks during the winter months. Cover compacted waste with a minimum of 6 inches of soil as soon as soils are workable in spring.
7. Ensure the uncovered working face is kept as small as practical to reduce the potential for windblown litter and for the attraction of birds and animals.

B. Burial (cont.)

8. Ensure that solid wastes shall not be placed in surface waters.
9. Ensure that waste oils or oily wastes are managed in accordance with 40 CFR 279. Oil filters must be hot drained and crushed or incinerated prior to disposal.
10. Ensure that all large containers (e.g., barrels or drums) are empty of fluids prior to crushing and burying. All fluids removed from drums prior to the drums' disposal shall be properly disposed of in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to, RCRA, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, Title 46 of Alaska Statutes and 18 AAC 60.
11. Ensure that 2 feet of final cover (as specified in the closure section of the permit) is applied within 90 days after the last waste deposition is made to a trench.

C. Septic Tank Pumping Waste Disposal

1. Construct and fill one septic tank pumping waste disposal trench at a time. The trench should be less than **4 feet** in width and less than **12 feet** in depth.
2. Add hydrated lime or quicklime in a dry form at the rate of 20 to 30 pounds per 1000 gallons of septic tank pumping waste before or at the same time the waste is discharged into the disposal trench. A pH 12 should be maintained in the septic tank waste for a minimum of 30 minutes to kill bacteria and other pathogens.
4. Ensure septic tank pumping waste is covered with a minimum six inches of soil after placement its separate disposal trench.
5. Maintain records of the volume (in gallons) of septic tank pumping waste disposed of at the site each year and make them available to the Department for review upon request.

D. Animal/Fish Waste

1. Ensure that animal and fish wastes are coated with a thin layer of hydrated lime and covered immediately with at least six inches of soil after each disposal.
2. Maintain a container and supply of hydrated lime near the animal/fish waste disposal area for use by the operator to treat waste placed at the site.

E. Burning

1. Prohibit open burning on the working face and immediately extinguish any fires that occur on the working face.

E. Burning (cont.)

2. Notify the Department of Environmental Conservation, Northern Regional Office, at 451-2108 within 24-hours of a fire, if any fires occur on the working face.
3. Allow controlled burning of wastes that do not create black smoke, if done in an area away from the working face in burn boxes, burn cages, or other enhanced burning devices. Burning shall occur only when an attendant is on duty.
4. Implement a waste separation plan to collect burnable wastes such as paper, cardboard, wood, and organic matter, as necessary, to ensure the adequate combustion efficiency that avoids smoldering or the generation of black smoke.
5. Remove ash from the burn device at least once each month, or more often if necessary to maintain airflow for efficient combustion.
6. Prohibit open burning during periods of high wind, dryness or other conditions that may cause wildfires.

F. Access

1. Construct and maintain on-site roads as necessary to assure adequate traffic control. Adequate traffic control means that the site supervisor will maintain positive control of all persons who are within the landfill boundaries, and that refuse will be deposited in approved locations. Dumping in unauthorized areas violates conditions of this permit and Alaska Administrative Codes.

G. Litter

1. Collect all windblown and littered refuse from the disposal site and along the entrance road at least once each month and return it to the active disposal trench for burial. All littered wastes on lands within 500 feet of the site, whether windblown or dumped, shall be collected and disposed of at a frequency necessary to prevent this litter from becoming an aesthetic nuisance.

H. Snow Control

1. Remove snow where possible from the disposal trench/ operations area and uphill of the disposal trench prior to spring snow melt.
2. Deposit any snow removed in an area away from the working face within the landfill and clean up any accumulated litter in that area after the snow melts.
3. Erect snow fences or berms as necessary to control blowing snow at the site.

III. PROHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

The permit holder shall:

- A. Prohibit discharge of firearms at the facility.
- B. Prohibit disposal of hazardous wastes, as defined in 40 CFR 261.3, oily wastes, waste oil, greases, paints, sludges, and chemical wastes at this facility.
- C. Prohibit disposal of lead-acid vehicle batteries at this site. Batteries may be stored temporarily in a designated area in covered, leak-proof storage containers prior to their transport to a recycler or permitted disposal site.
- D. Prohibit disposal of asbestos at this site.
- E. Prohibit storage of used oil, or antifreeze or other bulk liquids at the landfill site. Used oil and other hazardous bulk liquids must be stored in a bermed and lined area located away from the landfill facility.
- F. Prohibit disposal of contaminated soil which contains metals or other chemicals in concentrations that the Department determines poses an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Prohibit the disposal of contaminated soil which:
  - 1. Contains concentrations of hazardous substances exceeding one or more of the applicable migration to groundwater levels set in 18 AAC 75.341 Table B1 or Table B2;
  - 2. Exhibits the characteristic of toxicity described in 40 C.F.R. 261.24(a); or
  - 3. Is determined by the department under 18 AAC 75 to pose a migration to surface water threat. Soil contamination that does not exceed migration to groundwater levels may still be considered contaminated soil under 18 AAC 75.
- G. Prohibit the disposal of unsterilized medical waste. Medical waste must be treated and packaged to prevent a health hazard before disposing of in the landfill.
- H. Prohibit the disposal of bulk liquids at the site. Containers being disposed of must hold one gallon or less of liquid.

IV. MONITORING AND REPORTING

The permit holder shall:

- A. Visually monitor the site each month for signs of damage or potential damage from settlement, ponding, leakage, erosion, or operations at the site. The visual inspection should include observations for any violations of the permit conditions for the facility. **Retain the results of visual monitoring in the operating record for the facility for review during inspections.**
- B. Maintain a set of site development and use plans and submit an updated copy to the Department showing current status of site development **October 15** of the permit each year.
- C. Maintain an Operating Record in a readily accessible place in the community or at the landfill containing:
  - 1. A copy of the permit application and permit.
  - 2. Inspection records, training procedures, and notification procedures required by 18 AAC 60.240.
  - 3. Any demonstration, certification, or monitoring data required in this permit including how the facility meets Class III criteria.
  - 4. The operating plan described in 18 AAC 60.210(b)(9).
  - 5. As-built drawings of the landfill.
  - 6. Location restriction demonstrations such as those for minimum distance to runways or flood plains.
  - 7. Copies of visual inspection records for the facility.

V. CLOSURE AND RESTORATION

The permit holder shall:

- A. Notify the Department's appropriate regional office at least thirty (30) days before the site is to be permanently closed and the equipment withdrawn.
- B. Ensure that a final cover be applied within 90 days after the last waste is deposited, and consist of a minimum of two feet of material. The top six inches shall consist of soil which will promote adequate water retention for the successful revegetation of the site with native vegetation or grasses.

V. CLOSURE AND RESTORATION (cont.)

- C. Develop and implement a vegetative cover plan for completed area within the first growing season using plant species recommended by the Alaska Plant Materials Center (907) 745-4469.
- D. Ensure that the covered areas and drainage control structures are graded to promote and maintain surface water runoff, to prevent ponding and erosion, and to minimize the amount of water entering the solid waste.
- E. Complete additional surface restoration work if significant erosion, ponding, settlement, or lack of success with revegetation has occurs within five (5) years of facility closure.
- F. Prepare a survey as-built or record drawings showing the location, type and volume of waste deposited at the solid waste disposal site.
- G. File the survey as-built or record drawings with the State Recorder's Office along with a file notation informing future property owners that this property may not be suitable for some uses; maintenance and repairs to the property might become necessary to prevent pollution problems at the site; and any activity that results in damage to the final cover of the property must be corrected to control potential pollution problems.
- H. Submit a copy of the survey as-built drawings and proof of such recording to this The Solid Waste Program, Fairbanks Office within 60 days of the final closure or expiration date of this permit.

## **APPENDIX B - GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS**

### **I. ACCESS AND INSPECTION**

The permittee shall allow the Commissioner or his/her representative access to the permitted facilities at reasonable times to conduct scheduled or unscheduled inspections or tests to determine compliance with this permit, State laws, and regulations.

### **II. INFORMATION ACCESS**

Except for information relating to confidential processes or methods of manufacture, all records and reports submitted in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Fairbanks Office, 610 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3643.

### **III. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY**

Nothing in this permit shall relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond his control, including, but not limited to, accidents, equipment breakdowns, or labor disputes.

### **IV. AVAILABILITY**

The permittee shall post or maintain a copy of this permit available to the public at the disposal facility.

### **V. ADVERSE IMPACT**

The permittee shall take all necessary means to minimize any adverse impacts to the receiving waters or lands resulting from noncompliance with any limitation specified in this permit, including any additional monitoring needed to determine the nature and impact of the noncomplying activity. The permittee shall cleanup and restore all areas adversely impacted by the noncompliance.

### **VI. CULTURAL OR PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

Should cultural or paleontological resources be discovered as a result of this activity, work which would disturb such resources is to be stopped, and the State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, is to be notified immediately (907-269-8721).

VII. APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL

In accordance with 18 AAC 15.100(d), applications for renewal or amendment of this permit must be made no later than 30 days before the expiration date of the permit or the planned effective date of the amendment.

VIII. OTHER LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

The requirements, duties, and obligations set forth in this permit are in addition to any requirements, duties, or obligations contained in any permit that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued or may issue to the permittee. This permit does not relieve the permittee from the duty to obtain any and all necessary permits and to comply with the requirements contained in any such permit or with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. All activities conducted by the permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit and all plans implemented by the permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

IX. POLLUTION PREVENTION

In order to prevent and minimize present and future pollution, when making management decisions that affect waste generation, the permittee shall consider the following order of priority options: waste source reduction; recycling of waste; waste treatment; and waste disposal.